

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:JHOGANSON:WES

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:JHOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 103217 TOSEC 110319

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM USUN NEW YORK APRIL 28:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1784

LIMDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS TO SECRETARY KISSINGER FROM GOVERNOR SCRANTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IV, USUN

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN
FROM IVORY COAST

1. AMBASSADOR AKE, IVORY COAST, CALLED THIS MORNING (APRIL 28)
FOR AN URGENT MEETING THIS AFTERNOON. A TELEPHONE CALL
DIRECT FROM PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY TO AMBASSADOR AKE
PERSONALLY OCCASIONED THE REQUEST:

FIRST, PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ASSURES SECRETARY
KISSINGER THAT ONLY HIS PERSONAL PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENTS IN
EUROPE PREVENTED HIS BEING IN THE IVORY COAST WHEN THE
SECRETARY WAS VISITING AFRICA. THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT TRAVEL
BY AIRPLANE, UNLIKE THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WHOM HE ADMIRES
ENORMOUSLY FOR MANY REASONS, BUT ESPECIALLY FOR HIS
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PERIPATETICS BY AIRPLANE. ACCORDINGLY THE PRESIDENT HAS

A LONG TRIP TO EUROPE FOR HIS FRENCH VISIT AND NEEDS A FEW DAYS OF REST ON SUCH A LONG JOURNEY. AMBASSADOR AKE ITERATED AND REITERATED MANY TIMES THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS THE HIGHEST RESPECT FOR THE UNITED STATES AND LIKEWISE PERSONALLY FOR PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER, AND HE DEEPLY APPRECIATES AND CHERISHES THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE IVORY COAST.

SECOND, IN A SPECIAL AND SINCERE WAY, THE PRESIDENT HAS GREAT RESPECT FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH AND HOPED THAT HIS RECALL COULD BE CANCELLED AND THAT AMBASSADOR SMITH COULD REMAIN AS AMBASSADOR TO THE IVORY COAST. MOST OF ALL, THE PRESIDENT WANTED IT PERSONALLY RELAYED TO THE SECRETARY THAT HE HOPED THE FACT THAT HE, THE PRESIDENT, WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS MAKING HIS TRIP TO AFRICA HAD NO "LINKAGE" WHATSOEVER TO THE RECALL OF AMBASSADOR SMITH.

2. I ASSURED AMBASSADOR AKE THAT I WOULD RELAY THIS PERSONAL MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO SECRETARY KISSINGER IMMEDIATELY.

3. PLEASE SEND DIRECT GUIDANCE TO BE USED IN RELAYING A RETURN MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT THROUGH AMBASSADOR AKE.
SCRANTON UNQUOTE SISCO

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